

THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATION OF INDO-CHINA

so liberally given them went into purchasing firearms superior to those used by the French army itself. Ten more years of effort were needed to put an end to this anarchy in Upper Tonkin.

The military, whom De Lanessan had restored, showed themselves [not wholly worthy of the charge. The Legionaries were the martyrs of the regular army, largely because they lacked influence at home, these soldiers bore the brunt of bandit warfare in Upper Tonkin. Left for months without relief in the unhealthy garrison posts of the Tonkinese mountains, they succumbed to the climate more than to the bandits' attacks, while the rest of the army remained securely in the relatively agreeable barracks of the delta. Fever and ambush made such ravages in the troops that the number of deaths was kept secret from public opinion at home. Only slowly did there grow an appreciation of the impossible conditions in these understaffed and over-worked mountain barracks, and of the unnecessary mortality they offered through lack of proper care and their officers' ignorance of the local topography. The army had shown great heroism and devotion tiring the conquest, but their sterile struggle with the civil officials ^as leaving its mark on the general *morale*.

The indirect results of creating Military Circles were almost equally insidious. Many civil officials were displaced, only to return to Hanoi in a desperate search of positions in an already over-staffed administration. Their salaries even then made the budget groan, and their presence only lengthened the already interminable red tape. The native government was also suffering. The new military zones were drawn arbitrarily across the old districts and across racial frontiers.

hese new territories were too big for the military personnel to handle, single officer often had to replace several civil officials. Commerce, o, was victimized: merchants refused to go where they were not Ere of having civil justice. The Residents found their powers much imnished, inasmuch as the military were responsible only to the sad of the colony. It has taken years for the necessary adjustments be made. Though their antagonism has died down, a certain rivalry tweeo civil authorities and military still subsists.

THE INDO-CHINESE UNION

hen Paris deputed extraordinary powers to De Lanessan, it was not meant as a permanent delegation of authority, but as a radical measure signed for a specific situation. His brusque recall revealed to the,